IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEB 0 6 2007

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

KUNIO SEKIYA, ET AL.

GROUP ART UNIT: 1731

ATTORNEY DOCEKT NO.: 24555

APPLICATION NO.: 09/486,483

FILED: MARCH 23, 2001

EXAMINER: MARK HALPERN

FOR: METHOD OF PREVENTING CONTAMINATION

OF CANVAS USED IN PAPER MACHINE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 OK TO ENTER (MU)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 MAILED DECEMBER 8, 2006

Sir:

Applicants respond to the Final Office Action mailed December 8, 2006. Please amend the above-identified application as set forth below and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks/Arguments to the Final Office Action begin on page 4 of this Response.